



Teacher Education and Professional Development (TEPD)

What is the Teacher Education and Professional Development program?

The Teacher Education and Professional Development (TEPD) is a USAID supported initiative of Kenya's Ministry of Education. The Government's commitment to universal primary education is also a commitment to ensure that educational quality is improved even as quantity increases. To that end, the program works to build the skills and expertise of educators, and enables Kenya's public teacher training colleges to prepare teachers to deliver quality education by strengthening pre-service training and in-service professional development. USAID supports this program by funding the delivery of technical expertise in best practices in teacher education and institution building, and by providing technology to enhance teacher training and the classroom experience.



Photo: USAID/Kenya

Preparing teachers to be as effective as possible in the classroom is a key goal of the TEPD program

Project Duration and Budget

May 2007 – May 2013

\$9.6 million

Who implements TEPD?

FHI360, www.fhi360.org

CfBT Trust, www.CfBT.com

Where does TEPD work?

Nationwide

What does TEPD do?

TEPD is providing the tools and training necessary to ensure that Kenya's teacher training colleges are effectively preparing the next generation of teachers by strengthening the colleges' ability to provide quality pre- and in-service teacher education and professional development.

A Teacher Competency Framework is being developed to promote common standards in teaching skills, knowledge, professional values, behavior, and evaluation; in addition, the program is introducing teacher education materials that better prepare student teachers for actual school conditions—including specific training on issues around HIV/AIDS. In addition, TEPD is creating and launching a "Tutor Induction Program" which includes follow-on mentoring through college-based Professional Development Centers.

An innovative partnership involving Intel, Microsoft, Cisco, USAID, and the Government of Kenya called Accelerating a 21st Century Education (ACE), is bringing information and communications technology and training to improve teaching and learning in 20 primary schools, three secondary schools and three teacher training colleges.

How is TEPD making a difference?

To date, over 1,400 tutors and 32,000 future and current teachers have been trained on various aspects of improving educational quality. Twenty colleges have launched Professional Development Centers.

Over 290 school teachers have been trained to use information technology tools in the classroom, and more than 90% of the equipment has been delivered and installed at Accelerating a 21st Century Education institutions. Teacher support teams have been formed in all the regions, and they are providing support, content and lessons to ACE teachers.

TEPD's Multi-Grade and Large Class teacher training module was approved in early 2012 for distribution by the Ministry of Education. The module addresses the real-life challenges faced by teachers in Kenyan schools.

In early 2012, three colleges conducted community health weeks in which over 6,000 people participated. HIV testing and counseling, male circumcision services and cancer screenings were offered. Eleven colleges have reported integration of HIV/AIDS prevention and care in their classroom instruction, reaching 7100 teacher trainees and 197 non-teaching staff.

What key challenges does TEPD face?

Teacher trainees and tutors are subject to frequent transfers, creating continuity and time management challenges. Policy change requires changes in accepted thinking and an overhaul of institutions. Success is a long process and requires many levels of buy-in.

TEPD in action

Bour-Algy primary school is located roughly 9 km south of Garissa, in Kenya's arid northeast. The school serves the children of nomadic pastoralists and subsistence farmers, who make their living along the nearby Tana River. Through the innovative Accelerating a 21st Century Education (ACE) component of the TEPD program, Bour-Algy school received solar equipment that is providing a reliable power source for computer hardware and lighting for the equipment storage room, two classrooms, and security.

A public-private partnership, ACE is bringing information and communications technology and training to improve teaching and learning in 20 primary schools, three secondary schools and three teacher training colleges in Kenya.

According to Mohamed Ahmed Affey, Headteacher at the school, local parents never dreamed that their children would have the opportunity to learn computer and technology skills. The parents are so excited about the development, that they have taken it upon themselves to provide security for the new technology at the school, clearing overgrown bushes in the compound and taking turns supplementing the security being provided by the school.

"It is rare to see the local people come together as a community the way they have to improve and secure the school" said Mr. Affey

For more information:

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Photo: TEPD

The entire community at Bour-Algy primary is excited about the new computer equipment and solar power provided through the Accelerating a 21st Century Education component of TEPD.

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